

#### **Summer 2013**

# SilverLining

**Nevada Talking Book Services** 

## **NLS Mobile Applications**

Persons unable to read or use print

**Eligibility** 

materials as a result of temporary or

permanent visual or physical limitations.

**Talking Books** 

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#### **Hours**

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Closed State

holidays

National Library Service (NLS) is in the process of developing applications (apps) for Talking Book patrons' use that will enable patrons to play NLS Braille and Audio Reading Download books (BARD) and electronic Braille books on certain mobile devices.

We will let you know when each of the apps becomes available.

The app is named BARD Mobile. The two versions being developed are for use with patron's personal devices that will work on Apple iOS devices (iPhone, iPod, and iPad) and Google Android smart phone devices.

The plan is that patrons will be able to download any of the BARD digital books and magazines directly to their devices or from a connected computer.

The apps will employ the accessibility features of these devices such as Talkback and Brailleback on the Android and Voiceover on the iOS. The Android application will only work with Android 4.2 "Jelly Bean" and later versions.

The iOS application is at the internal testing stage and is tentatively scheduled for release in late summer. Development of the Android app is behind that of the iOS app and could be available by the end of the year.

When available, BARD Mobile will be free to all BARD users.

A 26 minute podcast demonstration is available at www.blindaccessjournal.com

Adapted from NLS Operations Alert No. 13-18

## To Avoid Delay to Your Service—Cartridges and Cases

Please do not mismatch cartridges with their corresponding case, send the case back to us empty, or lose the case or cartridge. Please only open one book case at a time. We cannot check and in and clear from your account a book case that has no cartridge in it nor one that has the wrong cartridge in it.

To avoid delay in receiving your next book and make this title available for the next person waiting to read the book, please follow this recommended process:

- Open one (1) book case at a time
- · Keep the case in a place you can find it, like a basket
- When you finish reading that book, put the cartridge back into its case
- Securely close the snaps
- Return the book at a regular Post Office drop box

## **Survey Results**

Thank you to those who took part in our survey which was distributed in our Spring 2013 newsletter.

Results of the survey tell us that 75% of our patrons contact us by phone. More than half, 55%, of you do not own a personal computer, but 45% of you do. Almost one quarter, 23%, of respondents download books from BARD. Almost 60% of the respondents use the online public access catalog (OPAC).

How does this service enrich your life? The most often marked answer was entertainment; companionship and education tied for second. Over 90% of the patrons who responded marked excellent to good regarding title selection.

And most patrons are happy with the number of books they get; 77% marked excellent or very good. Only three responses indicated fair or poor on speed of delivery, so 92% feel this part of the program is excellent to good.

Our highest one category rating was an excellent rating for courtesy of staff; 82% of the responses on this question were marked excellent. Thank you for your vote of confidence and taking the time to share your opinion. Your answers help us know what we need to work on to improve our service to you and what we need to keep doing right.

### **New Nevada Titles**

Nevada Recordings is an in-house program that produces audio versions of Nevada related books in digital format narrated by volunteers. The following are some of the titles recently completed by this program. If you would like to request any of these titles, you may submit your request in writing or by phone.

Andersen, Jim <u>Lost in Austin: A Nevada Memoir</u>

NVD01218 Narrated by Frieda Ford

This memoir tells stories of the author's adventures after leaving urban California in the 1970s for the small, quirky town of Austin, Nevada. 2009.

Brown, Rita Mae A Nose for Justice Mags Rogers #1

NVD01222 Narrated by Shellee Martin-Snyder

Mags and her dog Baxter set out to find the culprit of a bombing and a string of murders near Reno. 2010. 1st in series.

Brown, Rita Mae <u>Murder Unleashed Mags Rogers #2</u>

NVD01226 Narrated by Lila Halpern

When starting an outreach program for people squatting in foreclosed homes in Reno, Mags and Aunt Jeep uncover a string of murders. 2012. 2nd in series.

Cage, Caleb S. and Joe McCoy Nevada Review Fall 2011

NVD01232 Narrated by Stanley Marshall

Selections include "Organizational Climate and the School Superintendancy: The Case of Clark County Nevada," "Cherry Pie," and an excerpt from "Car Tag."

Cage, Caleb S. and Joe McCoy Nevada Review Spring 2012

NVD01227 Narrated by Stanley Marshall

Selections include an excerpt from "A History of the Tonopah Area and Adjacent Region of Central Nevada 1827-1941" and "My Dad and the Ox-Bow Man."

Egan, Ferol Sand in a Whirlwind: The Paiute Indian War of 1860

NVD01221 Narrated by Jean Mitchell

Sand in a Whirlwind is a dramatic account of the events surrounding hostilities between settlers and Indians in the spring of 1860. Violence. 1972.

Eibert, Mark <u>Under Every Rock</u>

NVD01220 Narrated by Lila Halpern

"Jason Lightfoot" recounts his career in intelligence and black ops. tracking down terrorists from a secure base in the Nevada desert. 2008.

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## Staff Bio: Brett Silver

Brett Silver is a native Las Vegan who was born blind. When he was of school age, there were not educational resources for blind and visually impaired students in Clark County. Brett's parents and others of visually impaired children along with a retired teacher from the Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind were instrumental in starting the Friends for the Visually Handicapped in Clark County in the late 1970's. This program allowed blind and visually impaired students of the Clark County School District to be main-streamed and stay in step with the sighted students in the educational process.

Brett graduated in 1998 from the University of Nevada Las Vegas with a dual degree in Communications and Criminal Justice. Brett has worked as a camp councilor at Camp Bloomfield, a camp for the Blind. Brett has also done volunteer work with Community Action Against Rape, Suicide Prevention, and Nevada Talking Book Services (NTBS). Brett started volunteering with NTBS in 2000 and began working in a temporary position in 2001. In 2006, Brett was hired for the Outreach and Public Awareness Coordinator position out of the Las Vegas office.

Brett is an advocate for the blind on and off the job and remains active in his local community.

## This newsletter is available in alternative formats upon request.

Nevada Talking Book Services

Nevada State Library and Archives

100 N. Stewart Street

Carson City, NV 89701

FREE MATTER
FOR THE BLIND &
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

